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India

Agricultural Situation

Monsoon Update (3)

2008

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Report Highlights:

Monsoon rains continued to evade peninsular India during the week ending July 9, for the third consecutive week, creating a drought like situation in some areas. Unless this region starts receiving excellent rains within the next few days, the crop production there, which includes mostly rice, sorghum, corn, peanut, soybeans, and cotton will be in jeopardy.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Trade Report
New Delhi [IN1]
[IN]

Monsoon rains continued to evade peninsular India during the week ending July 9, for the third consecutive week (Chart 1), creating a drought like situation. During the week, rains were significantly below normal in 22 out of the 36 weather subdivisions, mostly in peninsular, western and central India, compared with 11 a week ago and eight a year ago. Monsoon activity was mostly confined to the Gangetic plane in northern India. The all India weighted rains were 51 mm, which was 20 percent below normal.

Cumulative rainfall during June 1 to July 9 was normal or above normal in 23 of the 36 weather subdivisions (Chart 2). Weather subdivisions which received over 30 percent below normal rains were Kerala, Assam& Meghalaya, and most parts of Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh, where the major kharif crops grown are rice, sorghum, peanut, soybeans, and cotton. Unless these states start receiving excellent rains within the next few days, the crop production there will be in jeopardy.

The Agriculture Ministry's progressive planting report indicates increased coverage under rice, corn, millet, pulses, peanut, and soybeans, but a decline in area planted to sorghum, cotton and sugarcane for the week ending July 4. However, poor monsoon rains in southern states would slow down planting of rice, peanut, corn, besides cotton and sorghum. Poor rainfall has prompted the government of Maharashtra to declare several districts in the state as drought-hit. The state of Andhra Pradesh is also gearing up to face drought conditions. Due to poor rainfall in the catchment areas of major dams, Kerala and Karnataka are experiencing a shortage of electricity, forcing the governments to impose power cuts.

		JUN				JUL		Share of Kharif Crop Area (%)			
#	Weather Zones	4	11	18	25	2	9	Rice	Corn	Sorghum	Peanut
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands							0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2	Arunachal Pradesh							0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0
3	Assam & Meghalaya							5.8	0.6	0.0	0.0
4	Nagaland, Manipur & Mizo							1.4	0.9	0.0	0.1
5	Sub Himalayan West Bengal							2.5	0.6	0.0	0.0
6	Gangetic West Bengal							8.9	0.1	0.0	0.0
7	Orissa							10.7	0.8	0.3	0.6
8	Jharkhand							3.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
9	Bihar							8.4	6.9	0.1	0.0
10	East Uttar Pradesh							9.8	8.2	1.8	0.5
11	Plains of W. Uttar Pradesh							4.6	4.4	4.7	1.2
12	Uttaranchal							0.8	0.5	0.0	0.0
13	Haryana, Chandigarh & Del							2.6	0.3	2.5	0.0
14	Punjab							6.6	2.4	0.0	0.1
15	Himachal Pradesh							0.2	4.7	0.0	0.0
16	Jammu & Kashmir							0.6	5.0	0.1	0.0
17	West Rajasthan							0.1	0.1	1.7	1.3
18	East Rajasthan							0.2	15.8	12.7	3.5
19	West Madhya Pradesh							0.4	8.8	9.4	2.4
20	East MP							3.9	4.7	6.2	1.5
21	Chhattisgarh							9.7	1.5	0.2	0.6
22	Gujarat Region							1.7	7.2	2.5	0.1
23	Saurashtra & Kutch							0.0	0.0	1.0	34.6
24	Konkan & Goa							1.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
25	Madhya Maharashtra							1.3	2.2	18.7	4.9
26	Marathwada							0.2	2.2	14.0	0.9
27	Vidarbha							1.4	0.5	5.4	0.3
28	Coastal Andhra Pradesh							2.6	1.1	0.2	2.2
29	Telangana							2.7	6.1	4.1	2.3
30	Raylaseema							0.6	0.2	1.4	21.7
31	Tamil Nadu							4.2	1.3	5.5	7.3
32	Coastal Karnataka							0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1
33	North Interior Karnataka							1.3	7.2	6.9	8.2
34	South Interior Karnataka							1.0	2.8	0.5	5.5
35	Kerala							0.7	0.0	0.1	0.0
36	Lakshadweep							0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

		Scanty or no rains (<-60% of normal)
		Deficient rains (-20% to -59% of normal)
		Normal rains (+19% to -19% of normal)

Chart 2: Cumulative rainfall during June 1 to July 9

